



CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that the attached Amendment after Final is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail postage prepaid in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on Sept. 15, 2003.

Nancy V. McElrath
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Sept. 15, 2003
Date



Attorney Docket No. Q031

Patent
Q031

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:
PAUL KURTH

SERIAL NO. : 09/708,150

FILED: NOV. 7, 2000

FOR: METHOD AND APPARATUS
FOR INSERTION OF ELONGATE
INSTRUMENTS WITHIN A BODY
CAVITY

Examiner: C. Serke

Group Art Unit: 3763

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SEP 26 2003

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington DC 20231

Sir:

In reply to the final Office Action mailed July 15, 2003, please enter the following amendments and consider the following remarks.

Claims 1 – 82 were original in the application. Claims 83 – 92 were added by preliminary amendment. Claims 1, 7, 13 – 28, 33 – 36, 42 – 52, 54, 57, 61 – 69, 76 – 89 and 92 were withdrawn from consideration by restriction. Claims 33 – 36, 42 – 52, 54, 57, 61 – 69, 76 – 82 and 92 were restricted by species election. Claims 1, 13 – 28, and 83 – 89 were cancelled without prejudice. Claims 29 – 32, 37 – 41, 53, 55, 56, 58 – 60, 70 – 75, 90 and 91 have been allowed. Claim 2 has been amended. Claims 2 – 6 and 8 – 12 are at issue.